

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-14 have been pending.

Claims 1-14 are objected to.

Claims 1-14 are allowed, if the objections to the claims are overcome.

In accordance with the foregoing, the claims are amended and new claim 15 is added, and, thus, the pending claims remain for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been added.

TITLE:

The title of the invention, taking into consideration the Examiner's comments, is replaced. Withdrawal of the objection to the title is requested.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

The Examiner objected to the Abstract because it is more than 150 words. The Abstract is replaced taking into consideration the Examiner's comment. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

Claims 1-14 are objected to for allegedly "failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention."

In accordance with the foregoing, the claims are amended taking into consideration the Examiner's comment. Withdrawal of the claim objection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New independent claim 15 is a non mean-plus-function type claim, and is allowable for the same rationale supporting the allowability of the independent claims by requiring patentably distinguishing features thereof.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

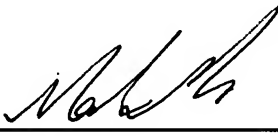
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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